CHAPTER XII

POLITICAL GROWTH

BOUNDARY SETTLEMENT

Wasatch County became a political entity three years after the beginning of settlement. On January 17, 1862, the Utah Territorial Legislature formed Wasatch County from portions of Green River and Utah Counties. As originally formed, Wasatch was over twice as large as it presently is, including all that territory known as Duchesne County and extending as far east as the Utah territorial line.1 The major division of the original county took place in 1914. Prior to this there had been two minor changes—one in 1884 and one in 1898. At an election held July 13, 1914, the county was divided and Duchesne County formed from the eastern portion. By decree of William Spry, then Governor of Utah, the division took place on the first Monday in January, 1915.2 In its final form Wasatch Couny was fifty-five miles long, thirty-seven miles wide, and contained over 750,000 acres.3

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

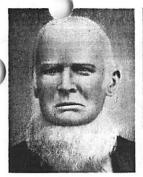
It was during the period that Utah was still a territory of the United States that Wasatch County was organized. Under the Utah territorial law, counties were to be governed by what was known as the county court, composed of a probate judge and three selectmen.4 The probate judge was elected by joint vote of the Utah

Wasatch Wave, December 21, 1906.

^{*}Ibid., September 11, 1914.

*U. S. Works Progress Administration, Historical Records Division, Inventory of the County Archives of Utah, No. 26, Wasatch (Ogden, Utah, 1938), p. 5.

POLITICAL GROWTH



John Witt



William Wall



Sidney H. Epperson



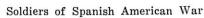
Thomas Todd



Joseph McCarrell



John M. Murdock





Moroni Turner



Elmer Duncan



Taylor Goodwin

Legislative Assembly to a four year term of office. The selectmen were to be elected by the county electorate for a term of three years.

Among the duties of the county court the most important were the management of all county business and the custody of all county property. The court also was to audit all claims, draw warrants on the county treasurer, divide the county into road districts, election precincts and school districts, locate building sites, grant water and timber rights, levy taxes, and oversee the care of the poor, insane, and orphaned. The court also appointed other county officials such as the clerk and the county assessor and tax collector. Duties in addition to the above included the regulation of contagious diseases, erection and direction of the county jail, jurisdiction over fisheries, and the creation of irrigation districts.

In February, 1862, the territorial legislature elected John W. Witt as the first probate judge in Wasatch County. He in turn appointed as selectmen to fill the first term of office Thomas Todd, James Duke, and John Van Wagoner. The court then appointed John Harvey to be the assessor and collector; Snelling M. Johnson, sheriff; John M. Murdock, treasurer; John Sessions, surveyor; and Thomas M. Giles, superintendent of schools.

The court next divided the county into precincts. That portion of the County east of the Provo River became precinct one. The officers were Thomas Rasband, justice of the peace; and Zemira Palmer, constable. Precinct two—that portion of the county west of the river—had Morton Jacobs as justice of the peace and Sidney Epperson as constable. Charles Shelton was the first county clerk.

⁶Inventory of the County Archives of Utah, No. 26, p. 24. ⁶Ibid., p. 24. In addition to civil duties the county officers were frequently the leaders in church government.

^{&#}x27;John Hamilton's name was substituted for sheriff when the list was submitted to the governor for approval.

s"Record of the County Court of Wasatch County, February 22, 1862," as cited in the Wasatch Wave, December 21, 1906.

POLITICAL GROWTH

Other early county officers were the road supervisor and two fence viewers for each precinct. The judge was paid three dollars a day, the clerk two dollars, and the selectmen one dollar and fifty cents a day.9

The county court and associated county officers were soon called on to regulate a great variety of county affairs. Disputes over water rights and range lands were common.10 Crimes and offenses included stealing watersometimes, embarrassingly enough, by very prominent members of the community. Malicious mischief quite often meant the upsetting of outhouses and chicken coops and sometimes the willful destruction of crops. There was also fighting over stray cattle and occasionally fracas with the Indians from the Uintah reservation. More serious crimes such as shooting and rape, were not unknown.11 Insanity was also a problem with which the court had to cope. Those judged insane were sent to the State Hospital in Provo. Care for the poor receives mention in affairs of the court in the early issues of the Wasatch Wave.

Taxes were frequently paid in kind, as there was very little money in the county. The county court made certain commodities legal tender for the payment of taxes and fines each year at a certain fixed price. In 1865, for example, the price of wheat and oats was established by the county court at two dollars a bushel for the payment of taxes. However, for the payment of fines and costs, wheat was worth one dollar and fifty cents a bushel and oats were worth one dollar and twentyfive cents a bushel.12

The following men served Wasatch County as probate judges until 1896:13

John W. Witt	1862-1868
Abram Hatch	1868-1874
Thomas H. Giles	1874-1884
Thomas S. Watson	1884-1890
William S. Willis	1890-1896

Probate judges continued to be elected by the state legislature until 1887, when Congress passed the Edmunds-Tucker Act, providing that the county probate judge would thereafter be appointed by the President of the United States.14 Early county attorneys: Wm. Buys, J. H. McDonald, A. C. Hatch, Chas Wahlquist and William S. Willis.

This change was a part of what is known as the anti-Mormon crusade period in Utah history. It was, in part, an attempt by the United States Government to effectively prosecute the practicers of polygamy through the courts. There were a number of polygamists in Wasatch County at this time, some of whom were tried and sentenced to the penitentiary.

Politics in the county during the period from 1862 to 1896 were confined largely to the issue of finding the best man for the office. There were no clashes along Mormon-anti-Mormon lines because there were very few non-Mormons in the county. In the election of 1889 the Peoples Party candidates opposed the Peoples Favorite Party candidates. The candidates of both parties were locally prominent Mormons. This was also true when the formation of the national Republican and Democratic parties took place in the 1890's.

County government changed once again in 1896 when Utah became a state. The first state legislature in an act abolishing the office of probate judge provided that thence forth the counties would be governed by a

[°]William Lindsay, op. cit., p. 4.

°Wasatch Wave, April 27, 1889, p. 3.

"Wasatch Wave, May 11, 1889, p. 3.

"Wasatch Wave, December 21, 1906.

¹⁸William Lindsay, op. cit., p. 17.

[&]quot;Inventory of the County Archives of Utah, No. 26, p. 5.

board of county commissioners consisting of three elected members. The state was also divided into judicial districts and the new district court took over the judicial function of the probate courts.

The county commissioners originally were to be elected every two years and were to choose one of their members as chairman. In 1901 the terms of office were changed to two four year terms and one two year term, alternating so that one experienced man was always in office.¹⁶

Wasatch County then, became a political entity during the period in which Utah was a United States territory and was governed throughout the remainder of the pioneer period by the county court.

A CAMPAGE COME

¹⁶Inventory of the County Archives of Utah, No. 26, p. 24.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

Epperson, Simon. Sidney Epperson, Pioneer. Heber City, 1937. Fisher, George A. Along the Road. Keetley, Utah, 1952.

Hunter, Milton R. Brigham Young the Colonizer. Salt Lake City: Deseret News Press, 1940.

Hunter, Milton R. Utah, the Story of Her People, 1540-1947. Salt Lake City: Desert News Press, 1946.

Jenson, Andrew. L. D. S. Biographical Encyclopedia. Vol. I, Salt Lake: Deseret News Press, 1901.

Neff, Andrew L. History of Utah, 1847 to 1869. Salt Lake City: Desert News Press, 1940.

Shaer, Mary A. A Brief History of the Pioneer John Watkins. Heber City, 1934.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

Desert News. Salt Lake City: weekly 1850-1867; daily 1867-

Wasatch Wave. Heber City, Utah: weekly 1889-1916.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

U. S. Department of the Interior. The Provo River Project. Bureau of Reclamation Bulletin, Washington: Government Printing Office, 1941.

Works Progress Administration, Historical Records Survey. Inventory of the County Archives of Utah, Wasatch County. Vol. 26, Ogden, Utah, 1938.

ARTICLES

Crook, John. "History of Wasatch County," Wasatch Wave, weekly: April 1889 to August 1889.

Hunt, P. A. "History of Park, Utah Mine," Wasatch County Home Coming and Round Up, a pamphlet published by Wasatch Wave Press, Heber, Utah, 1924.

Probst, Melba. "The Swiss in Midway," in Kate B. Carter (ed.), Heart Throbs of the West. Vol. IV, Salt Lake City, 1943, pp. 276-7.

"Origin of Mormon Names of Cities, Mountains, Streams, Counties, etc. in the U. S.," in Kate B. Carter (ed.), Heart Throbs of the West. Vol. V, Salt Lake City, 1944, p. 14. Willes, Florence Wootton. "Attewall Wootton," in Kate B. Carter (ed.), Heart Throbs of the West. Vol. II, Salt Lake City, 1940, pp. 141-2.

UNPUBLISHED THESIS

Bohl, Otto K. "The Park Utah Mine at Keetley, Utah." Unpublished Master's thesis, Department of Mining and Engineering, University of Utah, 1934.

Colton, Ray. "A Historical Study of the Exploration of Utah Valley and the True Story of Fort Utah." Unpublished Master's thesis, Department of History, Brigham Young

University, 1935.

Olsen, Emett. "Mining Methods of Park Utah Consolidated Mines Company." Unpublished Master's thesis, Department of Mining and Engineering," University of Utah, 1950.

MISCELLANEOUS UNPUBLISHED MATERIALS

"Biographical Papers of Andrew Jenson." Collection of unpublished material in the L.D.S. Church Historian's Office, Salt Lake City, Utah, collected by Andrew Jenson, 1916.

Crook, John. "A Statement of Securing the Water Rights of Heber City in 1859." Manuscript in the possession of

Clark Crook, Heber City, 1889.

Journal History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. L.L.S. Historian's Office Library, Salt Lake City, Utah. (A day to day Journal account of important happenings in the L.D.S. Church, 1845-1862.)

"Minutes of the North Field Irrigation Company." Wasatch

County Court House, Heber City, 1889-1952.

Young, Brigham. Letter to Horace S. Eldridge, 1858. Reserve Library, Brigham Young University.

MATERIALS IN THE DAUGHTERS OF UTAH PIONEERS HISTORICAL COLLECTION, HEBER CITY

Journals

The Journal of John Crook, 1888. The Journal of James Lindsay, 1920. The Journal of Joseph S. McDonald, 1920. The Journal of William Winterton, 1952.

Articles

Anderson, Julia. "Early Schools in Wasatch County, An Interview with Belle P. Morgan and Marie Erickson."

Anderson, Julia. "History of Daniels." 1950.

Anderson, Julia. "History of the Daniels Irrigation Company." 1952.

Anderson, Julia. "Lumbering in Wasatch County." 1952.

"Articles of Agreement of the Main Creek Irrigation Company of Wallsburg." 1887.

"By Laws of the Snake Creek Mining District." 1930.

Carlile, Shelia. "Charleston in 1898." 1952.

Fillmore, Elizabeth Z. "Biography of John and Mary Ann Shelton Faucett." 1950.

Ford, Lloyd. "History of Wallsburg." 1953.

Giles, Hazel. "History of Center Creek." 1952.

Giles, Ethyl. "Blacksmithing in Wasatch County." 1952

Holmes, Dorothy. "Interview with Henry Van Wagoner." 1933.

Huber, John. "History of Midway Ward." 1897. Johnston, Ethyl. "History of Charleston." 1942.

Lindsay, James. "History of James Lindsay." 1923.

Lindsay, William. "A Brief History of Wasatch County."

"Minutes of the Midway Irrigation Company." 1889-1952.

"Minutes of the Sagebrush Irrigation Company." 1892.

North, Edith. "Business in Charleston." 1952.

Probst, Melba D. "Historical Sketch of the Life of John Huber." 1927.

Ritchie, James. "Charleston." 1952. Ritchie, James. "Report on the Deer Creek Pioneer Irriga-

tion Company." 1952.
Winterton, Lucy. "Entertainments in the Charleston Ward in Early Days." 1952.

Winterton, Lucy. "Pioneer Day in Charleston." 1952.

Winterton, Gladys. "Interview with William Winterton." 1952.

Winterton, William. "History of William Winterton." 1942.

Interviews

Personal Interview by the Author with Emily Coleman. 1952. Personal Interview by the Author with Ethyl Giles. 1952. Personal Interview by the Author with Ethyl Johnson. 1952. Personal Interview by the Author with Lethe Tatge. 1952. Personal Interview by the Author with Emma Wherritt. 1952.

APPENDIX I

The veterans of the Black Hawk War, which commenced in 1865, comprise most of the early male pioneer settlers in Wasatch County and are as follows:

Battalion staff officers commanding the Wasatch

County Militia:

John W. Witt, Major John Hamilton, Major Sidney Epperson, Major John Crook, Battalion Adjutant Charles H. Wicken, Battalion Adjutant David Van Wagonen, Battalion Adjutant

William Wall Cavalry Company:

William Wall, Captain William McDonald, 1st Lieut. Joseph McDonald, 2nd Lieut. Andrew Ross, 2nd Lieut. Benjamin Norris, 2nd Lieut. John McDonald, Sergeant Phillip Smith, Sergeant Richard Jones, Sergeant Richard Forman, Sergeant George Clyde, Bugler Jacob Harris Ephraim Smith William Bethers John Acomb John J. Cumming George Fraughton William Gallagher Joseph Thomas Stanley Davis Robert Broadhead Nymphus Murdock George Giles William Nuttal William Giles Hiram Oaks

Daniel A. Sessions

George Carlile William M. Giles Calvin Henery George Giles William Cummings -William Averett Albert McMullin John Harvey, Jr. John Harvey Isaac Cummings-Sidney Carter Joseph Parker George Bunnell Henry Ohwiller Isaac Baum Richard Sessions Darwin Walton Thomas Nichol Lybeous L. Coon Murry Harvey Solomon Sessions Elijah Thomas Alfred Shelton William Cole James Carlile

147

Joseph McCarrel Cavalry Company:

Joseph McCarrel, Captain
Edward Bronson, 1st Lieut.
Jesse McCarrel, 2nd Lieut.
Ephraim Van Wagoner, Sergeant
James R. Hamilton
William Bagley
Jeremiah Roby

Henry Coleman Richard Sherlock James Jackson William Gibson Charles Gurney Emanuel Richman Ezekiel Bates

Ira Jacob Infantry Company:

Ira N. Jacob, Captain William W. Wilson, 1st Lieut. Robert Cunningham, 2nd Lieut. George Dabbling, 2nd Lieut. William McGhie, 2nd Lieut. Peter Abplanalp, 2nd Lieut. James Low, 2nd Lieut. Samuel Thomson, 2nd Lieut.
John O'Niel, Sergeant
John L. Gerber, Sergeant
George Wilson, Sergeant John Huber, Sergeant John Sutherland, Sergeant John Fausett, Sergeant John Robertson Thomas Fisher Moroni Blood James O'Niel Allen Morton Joseph Jacob George Clift Simon S. Higgenbottom Thompson Ritter James Gurr, Sr. William R. Buhler Marino McOlney Adam Thompson John Ross Louis Gerber David F. Hamilton Thomas Thorton Jacob Duel Attewell Wootton

Edward Condor Lucien H. Jacobs William Coleman Joshua Weed George Bonner Harvey Meeks John Davis Enoch Davis John Robertson Henry Love Conrad Abegglen Jacob Buhler Jacob Burgner Casper Sulser John Sulser Martin Naegell Hyrum Shelton Herbert Hosser Joseph All Charles Allen Edwin Wardle James Provost Mark Smith David Provost James W. Fisher John Moser David Wood Andrew Hamilton Jeremiah Roby, Jr. Jacob Ertzinger James Davis Christian Abegglen Ulrich Abegglen

Thomas Todd Infantry Company:

Thomas Todd, Captain Charles Carroll, 1st Lieut. Fredrick Giles, 2nd Lieut. Henry McMullin, 2nd Lieut. Dixon H. Greer, 2nd Lieut. William Molton, Sergeant William McGhie, Sergeant William Haws, Sergeant George A. Wilson, Sergeant Jonathan Clegg, Drum Major James Shanks, Fife Major James Duke.

James Duke,
Drum Major's Adjutant
Jessie Bond
Thomas Hudley
Williard Carroll
Jacob Baum
William Chatwin
Edward Payne
Alfred Ward
George T. Giles
Thomas Rasband
James Cole
Thomas Hicken
David Stephenson

William Richardson John Ritchie William Watson, Jr. Samuel McFee Henry Nelson Noah Mayoh James Nash Frank Wilson Jasper Boren Edward Stocks James Gurr Hiram Bigelow Ephraim Hanks Francis Kirby George Brown Moroni Mecham Reuben Gurr John Andrews J. R. Miller Lewis Potree John Davis Louis Wineloh Thomas Smith Frank Wilson Henry Luke

John Galligher Infantry Company:

John Galligher, Captain
William P. Reynolds, 1st Lieut.
John Lee, 2nd Lieut.
Henry Chatwin, 2nd Lieut.
George Thompson, 2nd Lieut.
Samuel Rooker, Sergeant
Robert McKnight, Sergeant
Cornelius White
James Watson
David Barney
William Giles
Thomas Moulton
John Cummings
William Thompson
Richard Smith

George Noakes
Elisha Jones
Anthony Brown
Daniel McMillan
F. Kirby
F. Manning
James Reed
James Taylor
Thomas H. Sessions
Peter Backstrong
Thomas Giles
William Ryan
George Daybell
John Cristmon

"UNDER WASATCH SKIES"

John M. Murdock, Infantry Company:

John M. Murdock, Captain
John Muir, 1st Lieut.
John Jordan, 2nd Lieut.
William Davidson, 2nd Lieut.
Archibald Scoggie, 2nd Lieut.
James McNaughton, Sergeant
Robert Cunningham, Sergeant
Reuben Allred, Sergeant
Joseph Moulton, Drummer
Joseph Taylor, Color Bearer
William Clegg
Freman Manning
Thomas Hudson
William Aird
Stephen Bond
Robert Baird
James Given
William Thomas
William Clegg
David Adams
Mark Jeffs

William McMillan
James Adam
George Muir
John Turner
Joseph Batson
William Lindsay
Peter Cunningham
William Oaks
John J. Jordan
Lewis Mecham
Edward Gurr
William Johnson
Isaac O. Wall
Francis Kirby, Jr.
John Mecham
John G. Timothy
William Adams
Arthur Kirk
James Allred
William M. Ryan
Peter Garr
James S. Lindsay

R. RAYMOND GREEN, M.D. 375 E. 2nd NORTH

HEBER, UTAH



Leslie Raty



Lethe Coleman Tatge



, Hazel Lindsay Giles



Julia Morse Anderson



Gladys Barrett Winterton



Bernice Alder Simpson



Ethel Duke Johnson

UNDER WASATCH SKIES BOOK COMMITTEE



Leslie Raty



lan

iy ham

n

Jr.

an

lsay

Lethe Coleman Tatge



Hazel Lindsay Giles



Julia Morse Anderson



Gladys Barrett Winterton



Bernice Alder Simpson



Ethel Duke Johnson

151

UNDER WASATCH SKIES BOOK COMMITTEE



Leslie Raty



an

y – iam

n

Jr.

ıy

an

say

Lethe Coleman Tatge



, Hazel Lindsay Giles



Julia Morse Anderson



Gladys Barrett Winterton



Bernice Alder Simpson



Ethel Duke Johnson

151



p152 under wasatch Skies

1st row: Elizabeth Carrol, Janette McMullen, Mary Moulton, Mary Ann Smith, Sarah J. R. Lindsay (Children Maryan Duke Ryan, Elouise Crouse)

2nd row: Martha Clegg, Agnes Turner Celestia Buys, Christie Giles, Elizabeth Baird

3rd row: Maria Rasband, Jane Hatch Turner, Agne W. Lindsay, Elizabeth Wootton, Augusta Dohl

4th row: Ida Watkins, Florence Balaska, Elizabeth Carlile, Eliza J. Rasband, Emma J. Fortie, Amelia Montgomery, Eda Johnson, Maybell Moulton, Annie Simpson, Fannie J. Wall

5th row: Kate Turner, Mary Blackley, Josie Daybell, LaVon Birch, Annie Rasband, Virginia Christensen, Martha L. Agle, Chrisie L. Duke, Annie L. Clyde, Vera L. Rasband, Mary L. Fisher, Carlie Clegg, Molly Davis



1st row: Elizabeth Carrol, Janette McMullen, Mary Moulton, Mary Ann Smith, Sarah J. R. Lindsay (Children Maryan Duke Ryan, Elouise Crouse)

2nd row: Martha Clegg, Agnes Turner Celestia Buys, Christie Giles, Elizabeth Baird

3rd row: Maria Rasband, Jane Hatch Turner, Agne W. Lindsay, Elizabeth Wootton, Augusta Dohlman

4th row: Ida Watkins, Florence Balaska, Elizabeth Carlile, Eliza J. Rasband, Emma J. Fortie, Amelia Montgomery, Eda Johnson, Maybell Moulton, Annie Simpson, Fannie J. Wall

5th row: Kate Turner, Mary Blackley, Josie Daybell, LaVon Birch, Annie Rasband, Virginia Christensen, Martha L. Agle, Chrisie L. Duke, Annie L. Clyde, Vera L. Rasband, Mary L. Fisher, Carlie p153 Clegg, Molly Davis

W

DAUGHTERS OF UTAH PIONEERS OF WASATCH COUNTY

Copied from original minutes May 28, 1920.

Twenty-nine women met at the First Ward chapel, in Heber City, May 28, 1920 for the purpose of organizing a camp of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

President Elizabeth A. P. Hayward and Sec. Elizabeth M. Taylor Beer, Salt Lake Central Camp, were here to assist in the work.

After reading the by-laws and explaining the purpose of the organization—the following officers were elected: President Jane Hatch Turner, 1st Vice Pres. Eliza Jeffs Rasband, 2nd Vice President Martha Smith Clegg, Sec. Rowana Ottinger Hatch, Asst. Sec. Jennie Wood Broadbent, Historian Margaret Crook, Auditor Carlie Clegg Tidwell, Treasurer Lacy Bond Duke, Registrar Isabel Baum, Chaplain Anna Ross Young Duke.

The Heber Camp was to be known as the head camp of Wasatch County.

The following ladies paid their dues and received their application blanks: Jane Hatch Turner, Martha Smith Clegg, Rowena Ottinger Hatch, Maria Carlile Rasband, Elizabeth Thatcher McDonald, Lacy Bond Duke, Amanda Smith Horner, Janie Harner Murdock, Lacy Turner Dannenberg, Agnes Montgomery Turner, Amelia Ann Clegg Montgomery, Mary Ann Luke Davis, Mary Lee Moulton, Lavina Averett Murdock, Carlie Luke Clegg, Sarah Murdock Lindsay.

Two other camps organized that day—Hawthorne Camp, Midway, with Pres. Emily Springer Coleman, 1st Vice Pres. Martha Smith Bronson, 2nd Vice Pres. Ethel Davis Huffaker, Sec. Elizabeth Ross Huntington, Assist. Sec. Vivian Orrick Coleman, Treasurer Eliza Bronson Bonner, Registrar Ella Elexander Ross, Historian Mary Huber Probst, Choristor Ann Street, Chaplin Cordelia Mathews Wilson.









Jane Hatch Turner



Eliza Jeffs Rasband



Emma Hatch Wherrit



Annie L. Coleman



Millie Clegg Montgomery



Emily Springer Coleman



Ella Murdock Watson



Josee Turner Daybell

155

STATE OF

Timpanogos Camp, Charleston, with Pres. Ella Murdock Watson, 1st Vice Pres. Sarah A. Wagstaff, 2nd Vice Pres. Julia B. Widdison.

It was not long until the Heber Camp was too large

and was divided by Center Street into two camps.

All persons living north of Center Street belonging to For-get-me-not Camp with officers: President Josie Turner Daybell, 1st Vice Pres. America W. Jacobsen, 2nd Vice Pres. Kate Alexander Turner.

All persons living south of Center Street belonging to Camp No. One—officers: President Amelia Clegg Montgomery, 1st Vice Pres. Mary A. Campbell Clyde, 2nd Vice Pres. Mary M. Lindsay Fisher.

Central Camp Presidents were: Jane Hatch Turner—1920-1930; Emma Hatch Wherritt—1930-1946; Annie Lee Coleman—1946-1950; Emma Hatch Wherritt—1950-1954; Lethe Coleman Tatge—1954-.

The Daughters of Utah Pioneers has always been an important organization. Its objective, the writing of histories of our Pioneers, gathering of pictures and manuscripts, marking of historical spots is important work, and has done much to help make Utah a great state.

We will continue this work, and hope to complete the list of all our early pioneers who came to Utah prior to the Railroad—May 10, 4867.

1869 Emma H. Wherritt

THE DAUGHTERS OF UTAH PIONEERS

By Kate B. Carter

The story of the Pioneers of Utah never will be fully told until every county, city and village publishes its early records as kept by civic and church organizations as well as by individuals. The Pioneer spirit was a creative spirit—one which designed and built for tomorrow. Utah Pioneers lived one of history's most dramatic experiences when they carved an empire out of complete desolation. We must tell that story.

The great heritage of being a direct descendant of pioneers, whose strength of character and devotion to principle, caused them to sacrifice all they had and turn to a barren west—blazing the trail, overcoming countless obstacles, conquering new frontiers and finally becoming empire builders—challenges the organization of Daughters of Utah Pioneers to accept their responsibility in keeping alive the spirit of the pioneers. It is fitting that we preserve their memory and hand down to their posterity and the whole world, for generations to come, the story of their noble achievements.

Through our accomplishments and the endeavors of future officers and members, the divine spark of intelligent perseverance which glowed in their hearts will be rekindled and kept alive. On April 11, 1901, fifty-four women, daughters of the early pioneers, participated in the work of forming an organization. The plan as thus instituted comprised the Central Company with head-quarters in Salt Lake City, county companies, and local camps in each county. Since that time the membership has reached more than 25,000 Daughters and the boundary line of the organization includes the United States, Canada and Honolulu T.H.

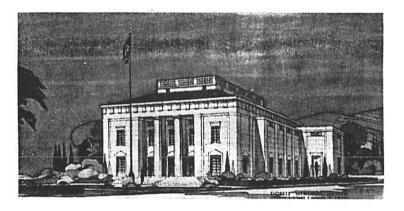
The object of this organization is to perpetuate the names and achievements of the men, women and chil-



Kate B. Carter

Below:

Daughters of Utah Pioneers Memorial Building in Salt Lake City, Utah.



dren who were the pioneers in founding this commonwealth; by preserving old landmarks, marking historical places, collecting relics and histories, establishing a library of historical matter and securing unprinted manuscripts, photographs, maps, and all such data as shall aid in perfecting a record of Utah Pioneers; by commemorating their entrance into the Valley of the Great Salt Lake on July 24, 1847, and such other advents and days as are important in the early history of this community; by publishing historical material; and by reviewing the lives of the pioneers, thus teaching their descendants and the citizens of our country lessons of faith, courage, fortitude and patriotism.

This association is national in its scope and is organized solely for historical, educational and public purposes; it is non-political and non-sectarian. Any woman is eligible to membership in the association who is over the age of eighteen years, of good character, and a lineal descendant of an ancestor who came to Utah before the

completion of the railroad, May 10, 1869.

Talent, intelligence, appreciation for the beautiful, reverence for the teachings of their ancestors, and a sincere desire to perpetuate and preserve the history and relics of the founders of their commonwealth were the chief characteristics of the women who assembled to organize the Society of Daughters of Utah Pioneers. Six of those assembled had crossed the plains as children; the oldest member was Laura Hyde Miner, age sixty-four, who was born in Kirtland, Ohio on May 30, 1837. The two youngest, Minnie Mabelle Snow Cole, and Susan Rachel Grant Taylor, were girls near twentytwo. The range of age and experience of the founders of the organization gave color and strength to its being. Leadership was a native gift to the individual members. Seven of them became president of the society. Many of the women were prominent in religious, civic and educational projects in the State. Seventeen presidents

have presided over the organization to date and each, in her turn, has filled the unique position to the best of her ability. All have tried to preserve the history of their forefathers, knowing full well that the Pioneer story of toil and suffering and final triumph can only be gathered through the efforts of members of Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

From the beginning of the organization, it has been the aim of the Central Company to organize County Companies throughout the United States. Under the jurisdiction of County officers, and at times with aid from the Central Company, many camps have been organized. Our County officers have been alert and efficient workers. Their spirit has been felt in the camps over which they preside for they have taken their duties seriously, enhancing the work by their accomplishments.

The real work of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers is carried on in its more than 900 camps. Every Daughter holds her membership in the camp organized in her locality. Meetings are held once a month on a date decided either by the County officer or by the local camp leader. Camp officers are elected every two years to lead the members in an earnest endeavor to gather and preserve the records of the past. Their work is the greatest asset. The first organizations were camps. Sometimes two or more groups held their meetings

regularly for several years before a County Board was elected to coordinate the work in the camps, and to further the interest, policies and objectives of the asso-

ciation within their counties.

The officers of each camp assume the responsibility of writing the biographical sketches of the pioneers who resided in the community and each Daughter gives to the organization the story of her pioneer forebears. At each meeting an historical pamphlet dealing with some phase of western history is discussed. Many of the camps and county companies own pioneer cabins, relic

halls, museums and historical buildings. Over two hundred monuments have been erected each bearing a marker upon which is inscribed an event of history.

Probably the greatest achievement of the organization is the erection of the Pioneer Memorial Museum located at the top of Main Street in Salt Lake City erected by the State of Utah and the Daughters of Utah Pioneers, and dedicated July 23, 1950. The beginning of the building dates back to February 25, 1921 when a Senate Joint-Resolution was passed authorizing the Governor to appoint a committee regarding the finding of a suitable place for the preservation and housing of relics, documents, pictures, etc., pertaining to the history of Utah which had been preserved by the Daughters of Utah Pioneers. This committee recommended a site on the Capitol grounds for the building of such a Relic Hall.

Twenty years later the Legislature leased the present building to the Daughters for a period of ninety-nine years. On October 17, 1947 contracts were signed by the State Building Board and construction commenced. The Daughters had many obstacles to overcome before the museum was completed. The cost of the building was in the neighborhood of \$600,000.00, but, the contents of the building cannot be measured in terms of money. The architecture follows the pattern of the historic Salt Lake Theatre erected in 1861-62, which for many years was the center of Western culture. The Pioneer Museum has thirty-eight exhibit rooms, each of which portrays some part of pioneer life in Utah. The Pioneer Library is one of the best in western United States and the Manuscript Room gives evidence of religious, governmental and civic transactions. The Daughters of Wasatch County gave unstintingly of their time and money to make this building possible, for which the organization will always be grateful.

No greater tribute can be paid to the pioneers of Utah than to publish their story. Wasatch County

home-life, social activities and the economic development of their county. They have collected old pictures, the building of their community. Into this book has gone the story—valuable material which future generations will seek for interest and instruction.

To them the Central Company offers its thanks and publishing a book containing stories of the settlement, Daughters of Utah Pioneers has won distinction by now

appreciation.